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STN-50-529 Palo Verde Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Arizona Publi 05000529  
STN-50-530 Palo Verde Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Arizona Publi 05000530  
AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
BEACH, A.B. Region 4 (Post 820201)  
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
STEWART, W.L. Arizona Public Service Co. (formerly Arizona Nuclear Power

SUBJECT: Forwards insp repts 50-528/94-23 & 50-529/94-23 &  
50-530/94-23 on 940528-0603 & notice of violation.  
Violations of NRC concern because violations highlight  
need to reduce personnel errors.

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

JUL 18 1994

Dockets: 50-528  
50-529  
50-530

Licenses: NPF-41  
NPF-51  
NPF-74

Arizona Public Service Company  
ATTN: William L. Stewart  
Executive Vice President, Nuclear  
P.O. Box 53999  
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION REPORT 50-528/94-23; 50-529/94-23;  
50-530/94-23 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the special inspection conducted by H. Wong and others, of this office and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, on May 28 through June 3, 1994. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with J. Levine and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. The special inspection reviewed the circumstances of the Unit 2 reactor trip of May 28, 1994, and assessed the adequacy of the Arizona Public Service Company's response to the event. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain licensed activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation and the issues identified in the event are of concern because they highlight a need to: (1) reduce personnel errors, (2) improve communications between maintenance and operations personnel, (3) maintain an effective questioning attitude, (4) maintain a "big picture" view when responding to plant conditions which are not understood, and (5) carefully assess the "re-engineering" changes made to streamline your work processes to assure that barriers important to assuring safety are not removed.

We found your review of this event to be thorough and a high level of management involvement was evident. However, from this event, we are particularly concerned regarding the mindsets of the instrument and control

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PDR ADOCK 0500052B  
G PDR

*Handwritten initials/signature*



technician involved in the work and the operators responding to the rising containment sump level. The instrument and control technician had a mindset regarding the appropriate train of the containment spray system on which to work. The operators had a mindset that the valve in the correct train of the containment spray system had been closed with power removed and could not be causing the sump level rise. These mindsets contributed significantly to causing this event. Action is needed to assure that additional mindsets do not cause other, perhaps more significant, events. Additionally, program changes made to increase work efficiency through your "re-engineering" efforts must also balance the need to assure that the sufficient safeguards are in place for appropriate control over the new processes.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

*for* *Putney*  
A. Bill Beach, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report  
50-528/94-23; 50-529/94-23; 50-530/94-23

cc w/enclosures:

Arizona Corporation Commission  
ATTN: Mr. Steve Olea  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007



Arizona Public Service Company

-3-

Southern California Edison Company  
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Rosemead, California 91770

ABB Combustion Engineering Nuclear Power  
ATTN: Charles B. Brinkman, Manager  
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Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency  
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Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034





JUL 18 1994

E-Mail report to D. Sullivan (DJS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

Resident Inspector

DRSS-FIPB

MIS System

Branch Chief (DRP/F, WCFO)

Senior Project Inspector (DRP/F, WCFO)

RIV File

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Leah Tremper, OC/LFDCB, MS: MNBB 4503

P. Eng, NRR

F. Burrows, NRR

A. MacDougall, (PV Resident Inspector Office)

J. Ganiere, (PV Resident Inspector Office)

RIV:C:DRP/F*	D:WCFO*	D:DRP		
HJWong	KEPerkins	<i>for</i> ABBeach <i>JML</i>		
7/12/94	7/12/94	7/16/94		

\*previously concurred



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